

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 09/732,786

Art Unit 1764
Q62216

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A golf ball having at least two pieces comprising:
~~a-an outermost~~ cover portion formed of a composition based on at least one of primary resins selected from one group consisting of an ethylene ionomer resin, polyester elastomer, polyurethane elastomer, polyolefin elastomer, polyamide elastomer, polyolefin resin, and styrene block copolymer which has blended and uniformly dispersed therein at least one of a silicone rubber powder, a silicone resin powder, and a composite powder thereof in a powder form,
wherein the at least one of the silicone rubber powder, silicone resin powder, and composite powder thereof have a particle size of 0.5 to 15 μm .
2. (original): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the composite powder comprises silicone rubber particles surface coated with a silicone resin.
3. (original): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the silicone rubber powder comprises crosslinked dimethylpolysiloxane or methylphenylpolysiloxane microparticulates or both.
4. (original): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the silicone resin powder comprises cured polyorganosilsesquioxane microparticulates.
5. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the at least one of the silicone rubber powder, silicone resin powder, and composite powder thereof have a particle size distribution ranging from 0.1 to 100 μm .

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6. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the silicone rubber powder, silicone resin powder, and composite powder thereof are blended in an amount of 0.5 to 50% by weight of the composition.

7. (original): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the silicone rubber powder, silicone resin powder, and composite powder thereof comprise spherical particles.

8. (original): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the silicone rubber powder, silicone resin powder, and composite powder thereof have functional groups.

9. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the golf ball-forming composition is at least one of a one-piece golf ball material, a core material and a cover material for a two-piece golf ball, a core material, an intermediate layer material and a cover material for a multi-piece golf ball having at least three pieces.

10. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1 wherein the golf ball-forming composition is based on at least one of an ethylene ionomer resin, polyurethane elastomer, polyolefin elastomer, polyamide elastomer, polyolefin resin, and styrene block copolymer.

11. (original): The golf ball of claim 10 wherein the ethylene ionomer resin is an ethylene-(meth)acrylic acid copolymer neutralized with a monovalent or divalent metal ion or both or an ethylene-(meth)acrylic acid-(meth)acrylate terpolymer neutralized with a metal ion.

12. (original): The golf ball of claim 10 wherein the ethylene ionomer resin has a Shore D hardness of 40 to 80 and a (meth)acrylic acid content of 5 to 25% by weight.

13-17. (canceled).

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18. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the powder has various particle size distributions ranging from 0.1 μm to 100 μm .

19-21. (canceled).

22. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the silicone rubber powder, silicone resin powder, and composite powder thereof have a particle size of 0.5 to 6 μm .

23. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the powder has various particle size distributions ranging from 0.1 to 30 μm .

24. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the powder has various particle size distributions ranging from 0.1 to 15 μm .

25. (previously presented): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the powder has various particle size distributions ranging from 0.1 to 10 μm .

26-37. (canceled).